



BS/WG/ED/R(2018)1

**REPORT
OF THE MEETING
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP ON EDUCATION**

Moscow, 19 April 2018

1. The Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Education was held in Moscow, within the framework of the Moscow International Education Fair, on 19 April 2018.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Anton CHETVERTKOV, Deputy Director of the International Relations Department, Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation.
3. The following BSEC Member States participated in the Meeting:
 - Republic of Armenia
 - Republic of Azerbaijan
 - Republic of Bulgaria
 - Hellenic Republic
 - Republic of Moldova
 - Romania
 - Russian Federation
 - Republic of Serbia
 - Republic of Turkey
4. The List of Participants of the Meeting is attached as **Annex I**.

AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The Draft Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted. The Agenda, as adopted, is attached as **Annex II**.

AGENDA ITEM 2: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BSEC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, AND THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE DECLARATIONS AND JOINT STATEMENTS ADOPTED BY THE MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF EDUCATION

6. The BSEC PERMIS informed on the implementation of the Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations of the Council and the follow-up of Declarations adopted by the Ministers in charge of Education, since the last Meeting of the Working Group (BSEC Headquarters, 28-29 November 2017).

AGENDA ITEM 3: CONSIDERATION AND FINALIZATION OF THE DRAFT DOCUMENTS (AGENDA AND JOINT DECLARATION) OF THE MEETING OF MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF EDUCATION (MOSCOW, 20 APRIL 2018)

7. The Delegation of the Russian Federation informed on the arrangements for the Meeting of the Ministers in charge of Education of the BSEC Member States (Moscow, 20 April 2018) and introduced the Draft Agenda and Draft Joint Declaration for the said Meeting of the Ministers.

8. The Working Group agreed on the Draft Agenda of the Meeting of the Ministers and finalized the text of the Draft “Joint Moscow Declaration of the Ministers in charge of Education of the Member States of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation”. The Draft Agenda is attached as **Annex III** and the Draft Joint Declaration as **Annex IV**.

9. The Working Group took note of the draft Report of the Ministerial Meeting, prepared in anticipation, by the BSEC PERMIS (attached as **Annex V**).

AGENDA ITEM 4: CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON EDUCATION FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 JANUARY 2018 – 31 DECEMBER 2019

10. The delegation of the Russian Federation, in its capacity as a Country-Coordinator, delivered a presentation on the Draft Plan of Action (attached as **Annex VI**).

11. The participants congratulated the Russian Federation for preparing a comprehensive Draft Plan of Action and made a number of useful proposals for its improvement.

12. The BSEC PERMIS Secretary General proposed to focus on the implementation of concrete projects included in the Plan of Action, confirming the readiness of the PERMIS to assist in obtaining the necessary funding for their realization.

13. The Working Group considered, amended and approved the draft Plan of Action of the Working Group on Education for the period from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2019, elaborated by the Country-Coordinator (Russian Federation). The Plan of Action is attached as **Annex VII**.

AGENDA ITEM 5: DISCUSSION OF CONCRETE PROPOSALS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT PROGRAMMES

14. The Working Group took note of information provided by the representative of the Hellenic Republic and the BSEC PERMIS on the state of preparation of a leaflet/brochure for Higher Education in the Black Sea Region and invited relevant authorities of the BSEC Member States to send their final comments to the draft text **not later than 31 May 2018**. Following the approval of the structure of the brochure, the Hellenic Republic will invite the BSEC Member States to send the substantive information on their respective Higher Education systems within one month. The draft brochure is attached as **Annex VIII**.

15. The representative of the Republic of Turkey informed that the Council of Higher Education of the Republic of Turkey is planning to organize a Workshop on Quality Assurance in Higher Education in the BSEC Member States in Istanbul, back-to-back with a Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Education, after October 2018. The details of this workshop and the invitations will be sent to the BSEC Member States at a later stage.

16. The BSEC PERMIS informed that the finalized text of the *Questionnaire on Cooperation Development in Education among the BSEC Member States*, elaborated by the Russian Federation, was circulated to the Member States and invited relevant authorities of the BSEC Member States that have not yet done so to respond to the Questionnaire. The Questionnaire is attached as **Annex IX**.

17. The representatives of the Hellenic Republic and Romania informed on the intention of their respective authorities to respond to the Questionnaire within 30 days.

AGENDA ITEM 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

18. The Working Group expressed its appreciation to the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation for the warm hospitality and the excellent organization of the Meeting.

19. The Working Group considered in a positive way information provided by the Russian Federation, in its capacity as a Country-Coordinator, on issues related to the Moscow International Education Fair, held in Moscow on 18-21 April 2018.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

20. The Working Group adopted the present Report and decided to submit it to the next Meeting of the Committee of the Senior Officials of the BSEC Member States.